



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

SEP 16 1959
X Vis. 1
September 16, 1959

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MEMORANDUM FOR: EUR - Mr. Merchant

Dear Livie:

Here are some hastily drafted talking points on the Berlin question which are illustrative of the kind of paper I think it would be useful to prepare for the President.

1. Khrushchev says he will sign no agreement which permits him in any way to recognize the continued occupation of West Berlin. Our position is that we cannot conclude any agreement which commits us to the indefinite partitioning of Germany.
2. Our troops in Berlin are not operating as occupation troops in the sense that they do not intervene in the operation of the West Berlin Government except in a few instances such as the prevention of the occupation of West Berlin by West German troops. Why then is Mr. Khrushchev so anxious to end the occupation status?
3. Our reason for objecting to anything which would continue the division of Germany is that we are convinced that this division is dangerous both for the Soviet Union and for ourselves. We are not attempting to force the issue now but we hope that by making progress on other questions we can eventually arrive at a situation in which German Reunification will be possible on terms acceptable to both of us, etc., etc.

Tommy
Llewellyn E. Thompson

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